

# Washington PUBLIC EMPLOYEE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION, WASHINGTON FEDERATION OF STATE EMPLOYEES, COUNCIL 28, AFL-CIO

Olympia News

OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON

DECEMBER, 1960

## NO TAMPERING WITH CIVIL SERVICE

### Membership Spurred By 207 Success

Over 200 new members have joined the Washington Federation of State Employees, AFL-CIO, during the months of October and November, 1960. Reports for December were not complete but showed the interest in the Federation increasing among State Employees with the Federation's successful sponsorship of Initiative 207, State Employees' Civil Service.

New members joining the Federation during October and November were primarily employees of the Departments of Agriculture, General Administration (Surplus Warehouse, Seattle), Tax Commission and Institutions. Membership is also growing among employees of the Field Staff of the Liquor Board as well as the Washington State University Experiment Station located at Puyallup.

Assisting Federation Field Representatives George Masten, Bob Henry and Robert Cooke in the organizing work in the field is Harry Tucker, Regional Organizer of the AFL-CIO. Tucker has been assigned by the National AFL-CIO to work full time with the Federation.



**CIVIL SERVICE BOARD**—Members of the Civil Service Board appointed by Governor Albert D. Rosellini to establish policies for the operation of Initiative 207 are shown above, left to right, Chester Ramage, Executive Secretary of King County Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO; Paul Coughlin, prominent Seattle Attorney; and John Conlin, Manager, Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, Puyallup. The above picture was taken at a special luncheon honoring the three Board Members which was held on Tuesday, December 6, at The Broiler, Olympia, Washington.

### Labor Lobby To Oppose Any Changes

Some 300 delegates attending the United Labor Lobby State-wide Legislative Conference held Saturday, December 3 at the Labor Temple in Seattle, took unanimous action "to oppose any attempts by the 1961 State Legislature to tamper with Initiative 207, Civil Service for State Employees, in any way which would weaken the program, restrict employee rights or deny specific or implied employee benefits."

The resolution adopted by the December 3rd meeting had been submitted to it by the executive board of the Industrial Union Section, Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO, which had met in Seattle the previous day.

#### WESTON ISSUES WARNING

After the resolution from the Industrial Union Section had been presented to the United Labor Lobby Legislative Conference by Norm Schut, Secretary-Treasurer of the Section, Ed Weston, President, Washington State Labor Council, reported several conversations he had had with Legislators who had indicated steps would be taken to "wreck certain provisions in Initiative 207 by Legislative action". Said Weston, "I told the Legislators that Initiative 207 had been approved by organized Labor before it had been filed with the Secretary of State and had received the full support of organized Labor during the campaign. The people have spoken overwhelmingly that they want this program and organized Labor, joined by other groups, will fight any attempts by elements in the State Legislature to circumvent the will of the people."

#### LEAGUE JOINS ACTION

Subsequent to the Statewide Legislative Conference of the United Labor Lobby, representatives of the League of Women Voters of Washington have also spoken out against any attempts by the Legislature to hamstring or weaken the operation of the Civil Service Law. The League had also given its full support to Initiative 207 during the campaign.

The final General Election vote

(Continued Page 2)

Continued Page 2:

## No Changes For Civil Service Law

(Continued From Page 1)

on Initiative 207, Civil Service for State Employees, as certified by the Secretary of State, Victor A. Meyers, shows the Initiative carrying by the overwhelming majority of 134,781.

Only Initiative 208, Authorizing Joint Tenancies in Property, carried by a larger majority of 216,831 votes. Initiative 210, Statewide Daylight Saving Time, gathered a majority of 39,512, while the Sportsmen's Initiative 25 had a majority of 42,681.

According to word from Kenneth Gilbert, State Supervisor of Elections, 82.25 percent of Washington State's registered voters turned out for the November 8 General Election.

#### OTHER LEGISLATION

The United Labor Lobby meet-

ing also went on record to give full support to measures requiring union recognition and collective bargaining for public employees, mandatory unemployment compensation on a reimbursable basis for state employees and permissive on a reimbursable basis for County and City Employees, adequate salary increases for state employees, authority for the state to pay part of the premium of a medical care program for employees and dependents such as is now being done by the Federal, County and City Governments and adjustments in mileage and per diem maximums allowed public employees for actual expenses incurred while traveling in the line of duty.